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CERTIFICATE OF MAIL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **October 31, 2003**.

Grace Alicea
Grace Alicea

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Date: October 31, 2003

Ian R. FINLAY et al.

Confirmation No.: 8482

Serial No. 09/757,427

Group Art Unit: 2172

Filed: January 10, 2001

Examiner: Ly, Anh

For: **IMPROVED QUERY EXECUTION IN QUERY PROCESSING SYSTEMS**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2100

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated August 1, 2003, please consider the following remarks:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.